

# HF Happenings 769



Volume 15, Issue 32, the week of 23 October 2017



## The CW WW DX Contests

The CQ WW is the largest Amateur Radio competition in the world. Over 35 000 participants take to the airwaves on the last weekend of October (SSB) and November (CW) with the goal of making as many contacts with as many different DXCC entities and CQ Zones as possible. The SSB Contest runs from 00:00 UTC on Saturday 28 October to 23:59 UTC on Sunday 29 October (or 02:00 CAT on Saturday 28 October to 01:59 CAT on Monday 30 October). The exchange is a RS report and your CQ Zone. For stations in Swaziland, Bouvet, Lesotho, Botswana, SANA Base in Antarctica, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Tristan da Cunha and Gough Islands, South Africa and Prince Edward and Marion Islands, that is Zone 38.

## Silent Key

It is with great sadness to report that the DX community has lost a DX icon in reporting DX news. Carl Smith, N4AA, DXer/Editor and owner of DX Publishing (QRZ DX and The DX Magazine) has become a Silent Key (SK) at the age of 77 on the morning of 20 October. Carl was a very active individual in providing DXers with upcoming DX activities through his QRZ DX bulletins, The DX Magazines and his years of writings the DX editorial for CQ Magazine. He was also inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame in 2012. Carl had many friends in the DX community. He will surely be missed. We send out our deepest sympathy to the family and friend of N4AA (SK). Read the nice write-up about Carl on the ARRL Web page at [www.arrl.org/news/view/grz-dx-and-the-dx-magazine-publisher-carl-smith-n4aa-sk](http://www.arrl.org/news/view/grz-dx-and-the-dx-magazine-publisher-carl-smith-n4aa-sk)

## Bouvet 2018 - 3Y0Z

"After over 10 years of dreaming and 2 years of rigorous planning, we have turned a page", the team reported in their Press Release #9 (17 October). "Our team is intact and ready. We have 7,7 tons of equipment. It has been tested, sorted, inventoried and packed into our 40-foot sea container. We have discussed all conceivable contingencies, including rough seas, clouds and fog, high winds and emergencies at sea and on shore. We have studied propagation, maximized our location on the island, selected the best radio equipment and have thought first and foremost of safety. All this culminated when we sealed our sea container on 9 October, entered it into customs bond, placed it on a truck and watched it begin its journey to Punta Arenas, Chile. Our die has been cast. Now, a new chapter begins: one of reflection, waiting anxiously and hoping (praying) that all will go well from this point on.

We have been blessed by the worldwide support of individual amateur radio operators, clubs and foundations. They have backed us, overwhelmingly. We are inspired by the support we have received, both financially and in spirit. We want to live up to all that is expected of us on this 'generational' DXpedition, which is likely the largest and most challenging DXpedition - ever. Indeed, there may never be another like it. We now

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HF Happenings from

[www.sarl.org.za/hf\\_happenings.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp)

## October

28 and 29 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest

## November

4 – RaDAR Challenge and SDR Workshop in Cape Town

5 – PEARS HF Contest

11 – Armistice Day

12 – Remembrance Sunday

18 – ZS40V DK Bash = AGM and Year-End function of the Bo Karoo ARC, Vanderkloof

18 - Antique Wireless Association Museum Open Day, Flea market and AGM

17 to 19 Cherry Festival, Ficksburg

23 - Closing date for December Radio ZS

25 - SARL Newbie Sprint; West Rand Flea Market; CTARC End of the Year function

25 and 26 - CQ WW DX CW Contest

have time to appreciate the responsibility that this project thrusts upon us. We feel it and we will do our utmost to meet the DX world's expectations from Bouvet - the number 2 'most wanted' entity.

You will start seeing band plans, more detailed propagation information, QSL information and more on our website <http://www.bouvetdx.org/>. Our Facebook and Twitter social media outlets will keep their conversational tone, but shift their focus to how you can best work us, plus current events and news of interest. Our updated propagation forecasts continue to validate our predictions, as visualized on our website propagation page.

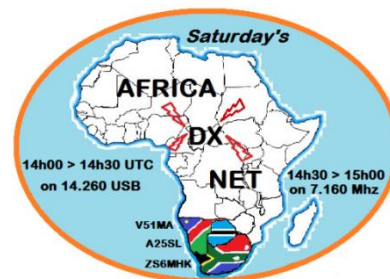
Our team now has a singular focal point, King George Island, where the next chapter begins. We will meet our ship there on 13 January and sail 3 540 kilometres to Bouvet. By departing from King George Island rather than Punta Arenas, we save about 643 kilometres of sea travel. This essentially gives us one or two more days on the air from Bouvet. We will savour those days, because they will give us QSOs that otherwise would not have been made. We have asked more from our team members than for any previous DXpedition. This includes their time, effort and money. We thank all of you who are helping to defray some of their costs. We continue to welcome new and additional support to help with these expenses. We are counting the days..."

## QRP Marathon

The 2nd QRP Marathon ("not a contest, but rather a statistical game") started on 19 October and will run until 23.59 UTC on 30 November (42 days, as the marathon course is 42 kilometres). Complete Information can be found at <http://www.aegeandxgroup.gr/page.html>.

## African DX

Tunisia, 3V. Ashraf "Ash", 3V4-002 (3V/KF5EYY) and Ludovic, HB9EOU will be active as 3V8SS from the "Radio Club Station of Tunisian Scouts" in Sousse, during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (28 and 29 October) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via LoTW or to LX1NO. Read about Ashraf on the following Web page at <http://www.kf5eyy.info>



Uganda, 5X. Anton, ON6NL plans to be active again as 5X8C from Entebbe, Uganda for two weeks in late October, possibly including activity during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. QSL via home call, direct or bureau and LoTW.

Mozambique, C9. Johannes, PA5X, is now active as C93PA from Beira as of mid-October for the coming months. Activity so far has been on 40 metres FT8, but will probably be on various HF bands using SSB and the Digital modes (FT8/JT65/WSPR). He is the first ever operator to operate FT8 in Mozambique. His setup consists of a Yaesu FT DX 5000MP Ltd, SM 5000, Acom 1010 HF Linear Amp (800 W), Kio Hexbeam antenna and Endfed antenna. QSL via LoTW, ClubLog and QRZ.com. For paper QSL cards, QSL via PA5X, by the Bureau or direct.

Ceuta and Melilla, EF9. Jorge, EA9LZ, will be active as EF9R from Ceuta during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (28 and 29 October) as a Single-Op entry. QSL via EA5KB direct or LoTW.

Guinea, 3X. Luc, F5RAV and Gerard, F5NVF will be active as 3XY4D from Conakry, Guinea from 27 October to 6 November. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 80 to 10 metres and will participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. QSL via F5RAV, direct only.

Tanzania, 5H. Chas, NK8O will be active again as 5H3DX from Zinga, Tanzania from 7 November to 4 December. In his spare time, he will operate CW and some PSK on 40 to 10 metres. QSL via NK8O (direct only, see [qrz.com](http://qrz.com) for instructions), LoTW and eQSL.

Malawi, 7Q. Members of the EIDX Group (who brought you 9N7EI earlier this year) will be active as 7Q7EI from an ideal location on the shores of Lake Malawi between 21 March and 3 April 2018. There will be a team of 14 operators. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. They also plan to be in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March). Look for more details to be forthcoming and a Web page which is under-construction.

## African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz  
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

French Southern Indian Ocean Tour. Gildas, TU5KG, is once again traveling through the South Indian Ocean on a fishing boat. As in past years, he will be sailing in both the Kerguelen and Crozet Island regions and may activate the islands (if he goes ashore) using his new callsigns - FT5XT (Kerguelen) and FT5WQ (Crozet). When at sea, he will sign as callsign/mm. QSL via F4DXW, direct only. View his QSL card on QRZ.com.

Added Note: It has been reported that within the next 15 days it is possible Gildas will be active from Crozet for 2 to 3 hours only.

Madeira, CR3. Filipe, CT3AB, Norberto, CT3FH, CT3JJ and Débora, CT3OP will be active as CR3Z from Madeira Islands during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (28 and 29 October) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via CT3AB.

Canary Islands, ED8. Manuel, EA8DO, will be active as ED8W from La Palma Island (AF-004) during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (28 and 29 October) Single- Op/Single-Band (\*\*m) entry. QSL via EA8DO.

Mauritius Island, 3B8. Jean-Paul, HB9ARY will be active again as 3B8HC from Mauritius Island (AF-049) between 4 and 18 November. He will operate SSB and slow CW on 80 to 10 metres, with a focus on 80 m. QSL via NI5DX (direct only), LoTW and eQSL.

Rodrigues Island, 3B9. Olof, G0CKV will be active again as 3B9HA from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) from 23 November to 12 December. He will operate CW, with main activity during the CQ WW DX CW Contest and a focus on the low bands outside the contest. QSL via LoTW and M0OXO's OQRS <http://www.m0oxo.com/oqrs/>.

Guinea, 3X. Alain, F5OZC has announced plans to be active from Guinea between 17 October and 1 December. Look for 3XY3D/p to operate CW and SSB from the Tristao Islands (AF-096) until 30 or 31 October and for 3XY3D to operate mainly CW from Kassa Island (AF-051) from 2 November to 1 December, CQ WW DX CW Contest included. Plans are to be active on 80 to 10 metres from both locations. QSL via F5OZC, direct or bureau.

3B7 DXpedition News (Press Release #3, dated 20 October). Our last communication goes back to several months, but we did not stay inactive! All tasks are going as scheduled. The logistical operations are going on and will soon be finalized. Transport to St. Brandon has been secured by a 50% deposit. It will be a 24-hour journey by boat between 3B8 and 3B7.

Once on the islet, we'll use the small fishermen's building as radio shack rather than tents. For sure it will be much more comfortable especially with high temperatures. We are working to get a reliable 24-hour electricity supply by generators. We already started to test and pack all our equipment in the crates previously used for Tromelin and Juan de Nova.

Expert Electronics LLC provided us some of their famous SunSDR2 PRO transceivers. We already have tested this setup with success on Juan de Nova. Now, these SDR TRX will play a major role in our expedition. Thanks also to our regular corporate sponsors DX Engineering, Messi & Paolini, Spiderbeam for their continuous support. We will give you more details about our setups soon.

We already made important expenses and time has come to request assistance from the DX community. Last week, we have contacted many clubs and associations who already supported us in the past. We are delighted to receive already positive answers! As usual, we are extremely careful with each expenditure, but such project remains expensive. The team will provide more than 50% of the budget, but we need your assistance to balance it. Please follow us on our web site [www.saintbrandondx.com](http://www.saintbrandondx.com), Facebook [www.facebook.com/SaintBrandonDX/](https://www.facebook.com/SaintBrandonDX/), Twitter @SaintBrandonDX.

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 9 to 16 October 2017

Illinois QSO Party  
17:00 UTC 22 October to 01:00 UTC 23 October  
Geographic Focus: United States/Canada  
state/province QSO party

Participation: Worldwide  
Mode: CW/digital, Phone  
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Classes: Fixed - high or low; Mobile; Portable; Rover; Non-IL - high or low  
 Max power: HP: >200 watts; LP: 200 watts  
 Exchange: IL: RS(T) and County; non-IL: RS(T) and state, province or country  
 Work stations: Once per band per mode per county  
 QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO  
 Multipliers: IL Stations: Each IL county, state, VE province once  
 IL Stations: Each DXCC country (max of 5) once; non-IL Stations: Each IL county once  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 23 November 2017  
 E-mail logs to: [n9jf@arrl.net](mailto:n9jf@arrl.net)  
 Mail logs to: WIARC, PO Box 3132, Quincy IL 62305-3132, USA  
 Find rules at: <http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP%202017%20Rules.pdf>

SKCC Sprint  
 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 25 October  
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Awards: Worldwide  
 Mode: CW  
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m  
 Classes: (none)  
 Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or power  
 Work stations: Once per band  
 QSO Points: (see rules)  
 Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once  
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points  
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 27 October 2017  
 E-mail log summary to: (none)  
 Post log summary at: [http://www.skccgroup.com/operating\\_activities/weekday\\_sprint/submit-display.php](http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/submit-display.php)  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: [http://www.skccgroup.com/operating\\_activities/weekday\\_sprint/](http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/)

Phone Fray  
 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 October  
 Geographic Focus: North America  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Mode: SSB  
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m  
 Classes: Single Op  
 Max power: 100 watts  
 Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name  
 Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station  
 Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 27 October 2017  
 E-mail logs to: (none)  
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: [http://www.perluma.com/Phone\\_Fray\\_Contest\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf)

CWops Mini-CWT Test  
 13:00 UTC-14:00 UTC 25 October and 19:00 UTC-20:00 UTC 25 October and 03:00 UTC-04:00 UTC 26 October  
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Awards: Worldwide  
 Mode: CW  
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m  
 Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high  
 Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts  
 Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country  
 Work stations: Once per band  
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO  
 Multipliers: Each call once  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 28 October 2017  
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

UKEICC 80 m Contest  
 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 25 October  
 Geographic Focus: Europe  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Mode: CW  
 Bands: 80 m Only  
 Classes: Single Op Connected - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unconnected - QRP, low or high  
 Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts  
 Exchange: 4-Character grid square  
 QSO Points: 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station  
 Multipliers: (none)  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points  
 Submit logs by: 22:00 UTC 25 October 2017  
 E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://logs.ukaiccc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.ukaiccc.com/which-contest/which-contest-ukaiccc-80 m-contests-rules](http://www.ukaiccc.com/which-contest/which-contest-ukaiccc-80-m-contests-rules)

RSGB 80 m Autumn Series, SSB

19:00 UTC-20:30 UTC 26 October

Geographic Focus: United Kingdom

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 28 October 2017

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2017/autumn.shtml>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 27 October

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 29 October 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 October

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 29 October 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest

00:00 UTC 28 October to 24:00 UTC 29 October

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high - option: classic or rookie; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high - option: classic or rookie; Single Op Assisted All Band - QRP, low or high - option: classic or rookie; Single Op Assisted Single Band - QRP, low or high - option: classic or rookie; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RS and CQ Zone no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 0 points per QSO with same country (counts as mult); 1 point per QSO with different country same continent; 2 points per QSO with different country same continent (NA); 3 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each CQ zone once per band; Each country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 3 November 2017

E-mail logs to: [ssb@cqww.com](mailto:ssb@cqww.com)

Upload log at: <http://www.cqww.com/logcheck/>

Web-to-Cabrillo form: [http://www.b4h.net/cab-forms/cqwwssb\\_cab.php](http://www.b4h.net/cab-forms/cqwwssb_cab.php)

Mail logs to: CQ WW DX Contest, Box 481, New Carlisle, OH 45344, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

## Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 UTC-03:00 UTC 1 November

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 UTC-14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 1 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 2 November

UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 UTC-21:00 UTC 1 November

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest, 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (CW), 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (SSB), 20:00 - 21:00 UTC (FM) and  
 21:00 - 22:00 UTC (Dig) 2 November  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 UTC-02:15 UTC 3 November  
 NCCC Sprint, 02:30 UTC-03:00 UTC 3 November  
 ARRL EME Contest, 00:00 UTC 4 November to 23:59 UTC 5 November  
 IPARC CW Contest, 06:00 - 10:00 UTC and 14:00 - 18:00 UTC 4 November  
 Ukrainian DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 4 November to 12:00 UTC 5 November  
 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW, 21:00 UTC 4 November to 03:00 UTC 6 November  
 IPARC SSB Contest, 06:00 - 10:00 UTC 5 November  
 14:00 UTC-18:00 UTC 5 November  
 EANET Sprint, 08:00 - 12:00 UTC 5 November  
 High Speed Club CW Contest, 09:00 - 11:00 UTC and 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 5 November  
 ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 7 November

*Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter*